IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 53-57 as indicated:

1-45. (cancelled)

46. (previously presented)   A method comprising:

appending a software application program as an attachment to an e-mail message;

transmitting the e-mail message with the appended software application program to a receiving computer; and

permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that a disabling instruction has been incorporated into the e-mail message that prevents the e-mail message with the appended software application program from being forwarded.

47. (previously presented)   The method of claim 46, further comprising:

permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that the e-mail message with the appended software application program was received by the receiving computer from a pre-specified e-mail server.

48. (previously presented)   The method of claim 46, further comprising:

imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that, in response to determining that the e-mail was not saved by the receiving computer, discontinues an installation on the receiving computer of the appended software application program.

49. (previously presented)   The method of claim 46, further comprising:

imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that permits a receiving computer to encrypt a serial number of a component of the receiving computer;

receiving the encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

decrypting the received encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

comparing the decrypted received serial number with a stored serial number in a system registry of authorized systems; and

enabling an installation of the appended software application program only if the received and decrypted serial number matches the stored serial number.

50. (previously presented)   The method of claim 46, further comprising:

enabling installation of the appended application program only if an authorized user identifier (ID) is input into the receiving computer.

51. (previously presented)   The method of claim 46, wherein the appended software application program can be installed on the receiving computer only once.

52. (previously presented)   A method comprising:

appending a software application program to an e-mail message as an attachment to the e-mail message;

transmitting the e-mail message with the appended software application program to a receiving computer; and

permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that the e-mail message with the appended software application program was received by the receiving computer from a pre-specified e-mail server.

53-57. (cancelled)

58. (previously presented)   A method comprising:

appending a software application program to an e-mail message as an attachment to the e-mail message;

transmitting the e-mail message with the appended software application program to a receiving computer; and

imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that, in response to determining that the e-mail was not saved by the receiving computer, discontinues an installation on the receiving computer of the appended software application program.

59. (previously presented)   The method of claim 58, further comprising:

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permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that the e-mail message with the appended software application program was received by the receiving computer from a pre-specified e-mail server.

60. (previously presented)   The method of claim 59, further comprising:

permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that a disabling instruction has been incorporated into the e-mail message that prevents the e-mail message with the appended software application program from being forwarded.

61. (previously presented)   The method of claim 60, further comprising:

imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that permits a receiving computer to encrypt a serial number of a component of the receiving computer;

receiving the encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

decrypting the received encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

comparing the decrypted received serial number with a stored serial number in a system registry of authorized systems; and

enabling the appended software application program only if the received and decrypted serial number matches the stored serial number.

62. (previously presented)   The method of claim 61, further comprising:

permitting installation of the appended application program only if an authorized user identifier (ID) is input into the receiving computer.

63. (previously presented)   The method of claim 62, wherein the appended software application program can be installed on the receiving computer only once.

64. (previously presented)   A system comprising:

means for appending a software application program to an e-mail message as an attachment to the e-mail message;

means for transmitting the e-mail message with the appended software application program to a receiving computer; and

means for permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that a disabling instruction has been incorporated into the e-mail message that prevents the e-mail message with the appended software application program from being forwarded.

65. (previously presented)   The system of claim 64, further comprising:

means for permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that the e-mail message with the appended software application program was received by the receiving computer from a pre-specified e-mail server.

66. (previously presented)   The system of claim 65, further comprising:

means for imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that, in response to determining that the e-mail was not saved by the receiving computer, discontinues an installation on the receiving computer of the appended software application program.

67. (previously presented)   The system of claim 66, further comprising:

means for imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that permits a receiving computer to encrypt a serial number of a component of the receiving computer;

means for receiving the encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

means for decrypting the received encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

means for comparing the decrypted received serial number with a stored serial number in a system registry of authorized systems; and

means for enabling the appended software application program only if the received and decrypted serial number matches the stored serial number.

68. (previously presented)   The system of claim 67, further comprising:

means for permitting installation of the appended application program only if an authorized user identifier (ID) is input into the receiving computer.

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69. (previously presented)   The system of claim 68, wherein the appended software application program can be installed on the receiving computer only once.

70. (previously presented)   A machine-readable medium having a plurality of instructions processable by a machine embodied therein, wherein said plurality of instructions, when processed cause said machine to perform a method comprising the steps of:

appending a software application program to an e-mail message as an attachment to the e-mail message;

transmitting the e-mail message with the appended software application program to a receiving computer; and

permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that a disabling instruction has been incorporated into the e-mail message that prevents the e-mail message with the appended software application program from being forwarded.

71. (previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 70, wherein the method further comprises:

permitting the software application program to run only if a determination is made that the e-mail message with the appended software application program was received by the receiving computer from a pre-specified e-mail server.

72. (previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 71, wherein the method further comprises:

imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that, in response to determining that the e-mail was not saved by the receiving computer, discontinues an installation on the receiving computer of the appended software application program.

73. (previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 72, wherein the method further comprises:

imbedding instructions into the e-mail message that permits a receiving computer to encrypt a serial number of a component of the receiving computer;

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receiving the encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

decrypting the received encrypted serial number of the component of the receiving computer;

comparing the decrypted received serial number with a stored serial number in a system registry of authorized systems; and

enabling the appended software application program only if the received and decrypted serial number matches the stored serial number.

74. (previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 73, wherein the method further comprises:

permitting installation of the appended application program only if an authorized user identifier (ID) is input into the receiving computer.

75. (previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 70, wherein the appended software application program can be installed on the receiving computer only once.